

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the very thorough consideration given the present application.

Claims 1-13 and 15 are now present in this application. Claims 1 and 10 are independent.

By this amendment, claim 10 is amended, and claims 14 and 16-21 are canceled without prejudice. No new matter is involved.

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants filed an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) on January 9, 2008 and ask the Examiner to review the references filed with the IDS, and provide Applicants with an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08 filed therewith.

Claim Objection

Claim 10 is objected to for containing "the first transition period." The Office Action treats that language as reciting "the transition period." No basis for the objection is stated. However, in case the basis is lack of proper antecedent basis for the definite article "the," Applicants have amended claim 10 to change "the first transition" to -- a first transition --.

Applicants respectfully submit that this change does not narrow the scope of the claim in any way, and makes the language "first transition" have proper antecedent basis.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 10-12 and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of U.S. Patent 6,362,804 to Park et al. ("Park"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's assertions made to reject the claims, Applicants have amended claim 10 to include the subject matter of claim 14, which is indicated as containing allowable subject matter, and have canceled claim 14.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 10-12 are allowable over the cited references.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claims 10-12 and 16-18 are respectfully requested.

Allowed and Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has allowed claims 1-9 and, by not rejecting claims 13-15 over prior art, indicates the presence of allowable subject matter in those claims. As noted above, the allowable subject matter of claim 14 is added to claim 10 to make claim 10 patentably define over the applied art. Claims 13 and 15 depend from amended, allowable, claim 10 and are allowable at least for that reason.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn, and allow pending claims 1-13 and 15. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

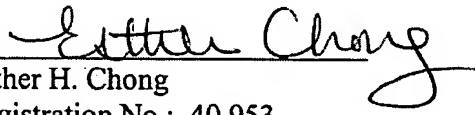
If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Robert J. Webster, Registration No. 46, 472, at (703) 205-8000, in the Washington, D.C. area.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: February 29, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Esther H. Chong
Registration No.: 40,953
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicants